

Appl. No 10/045,244
Amdt. Dated March 10, 2004
Reply to Office action of January 13, 2004

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 remain in the application.

The examiner has acknowledged that original claims 1-7 and 12-14 are directed to allowable subject matter. Applicant appreciates these acknowledgements.

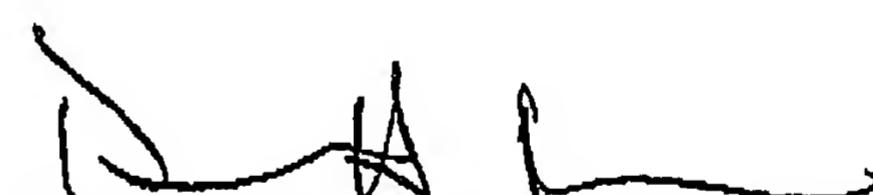
Claims 8 and 11 have been rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 9 of U.S. Patent No. 6,435,608, and claims 9 and 10 have been likewise rejected as being unpatentable over claim 9 of U.S. Patent No. 6,435,608 in view of U.S. Patent 6,435,608 to Shoemaker et al. Applicant has submitted herewith a terminal disclaimer to obviate the double patenting rejections noted in the office action.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. The Examiner is authorized to charge deposit account 03-0172 for the fee associated with the terminal disclaimer. No additional fees are believed due in connection with this response. However, in the event additional fees or extensions are required, the Examiner is authorized to treat this letter as a request for further extensions and to charge deposit account 03-0172.

Respectfully Submitted,

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